AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1, at the beginning of the specification:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is related to co-pending divisional U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____ (Atty. Docket No. MS180586.02/MSFTP298USA), filed on _____, 2005, entitled, "OBJECT-ORIENTED PULL MODEL XML PARSER".

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

In the non-object oriented world there are simple pull model parsers that may employ, for example, a single function (*e.g.*, GetNextToken()) which returns a struct containing information about that token[[ ]]. Such parsers also suffer from the problem of presenting the parse requestor with undesired XML tokens. Furthermore, the non-object oriented XML pull model parsers typically do not provide high-level input/output abstractions and, ~~and~~ suffer from traditional problems associated with non object code. Thus, there remains a need for an improved object oriented XML parser.

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

With XML being employed to store data for such a variety of applications, the need to parse XML for use with such variety of applications is common. Some conventional parsers may parse then write the more of the parsed output, events associated with the parsing (*e.g.*, encountered elements, encountered attributes, encountered comments, encountered white space, *etc.*) and information (*e.g.*, state, attributes) associated with the events ~~than~~that a user desires. Such over-parsing parsers suffer from several drawbacks, including, but not limited to, requiring the receiver of the parsed data to maintain a complicated state machine, transforming unneeded data, consuming excessive memory to hold undesired data, events and/or metadata, consuming

2

excessive processor cycles to process such undesired data, events and/or metadata and limiting the flexibility with which the output destination can request parsed data.